

specimens); that *pansa* Snow (Kans. Univ. Quart., III, 1895, p. 182) is a varietal form of it; that *antennalis* belongs to a distinct genus (*Chaetocrania* Townsend, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 28, 1915, p. 23); and that *Acroglossa* is a valid genus for *hesperidarum* Williston.

TWO REARED SPECIES OF TACHINIDAE FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

By J. M. ALDRICH, *U. S. National Museum.*

Specimens of two species of Tachinidae, reared in Brazil and British Guiana by J. G. Myers, were recently received from Sir Guy A. K. Marshall, Director of the Imperial Institute of Entomology, with request for identifications. One of the species had very striking characters and I drew up a description as a new genus and species. The other was not of striking form and I thought it best to send the specimens to Dr. Townsend in Brazil to see if he could connect them with any of his numerous described Brazilian genera and species. I sent along a specimen of my supposed new genus in order that he might record the characters in his index. To my surprise he reported that this had already been described by him, as *Metagonistylum minense*; the other species was not the same as any of his.

The original description of *Metagonistylum minense* is not readily accessible and is written in Portuguese with abbreviations, and moreover gives only a few points of structure; it therefore seems worth while to publish my description of both the genus and the species, especially since the fly now appears to have economic importance.

METAGONISTYLUM Townsend.

Metagonistylum Townsend, Revista Mus. Paulista, vol. 15, 1926, p. 379.

Allied to *Penthosia* Van der Wulp (type *Scopolia satanica* Bigot, from Mexico), but differs in many characters, especially in the great elongation of the first and second antennal joints, greater prominence of the frons, and first posterior cell open. Head as figured (fig. 1), first antennal joint greatly elongated, second also elongated, the third slender, much elongated, concave above, widening at apex; arista with distinctly elongated penultimate joint, the terminal one thickened almost to apex, bare; face very strongly receding; length of head at oral margin hardly one-half of that at antennae; front broad in both sexes, but narrower in male; parafrontals and parafacials wide; ocellar bristles present, proclinate and divergent, uppermost frontal reclinate, the second slightly so; male without orbitals, female with two; lowest frontals diverging below the level of antennal insertion; parafacial bare; facial ridges low and flat with a few hairs below; clypeus with shallow concavity, not at all protruding below; palpi normal, proboscis normal, short; eyes bare; cheek about one-fifth of eye

height; hypopleural bristles and postscutellum present; prosternum hairy at sides, propleura bare. Abdomen resembling that of *Cylindromyia*, but the space between its base and the hind coxae distinctly membranous; sternites covered by tergites. Wing with first vein bare, the third with a single large bristle at base, bend of fourth vein a rounded rectangle, thence concave to costa, which it joins well before the apex, the distance to apex being about equal to the costal segment between the second and third veins; hind crossvein joining fourth a little beyond middle between small crossvein and bend.

Genotype.—*Metagonistylum minense* Townsend.

Metagonistylum minense Townsend.

Metagonistylum minense Townsend, Revista Mus. Paulista, vol. 15, 1926, p. 381.

Black, including antennae and legs; scutellum more or less reddish.

Head.—Male. Vertex 0.31 of head width, the frons widening considerably; parafrontals and parafacials with smooth silvery pollen becoming thin near vertex so that the upper parafrontals appear shining; outer vertical about one-half the inner; a distinct pair of erect parallel post-ocellar bristles; back of head slightly swollen, with broad silvery orbits, a few of the hairs below pale; palpi of ordinary size, blackish except extreme tips, which are distinctly yellow below.

Thorax.—Subshining black with cinereous or rather glaucous pollen, leaving two pairs of shining black stripes, the inner narrow, the outer becoming narrow at the suture and blending behind into a single large subshining area, only visible in posterior view. Chaetotaxy: acrostichal 3, 3 (all rather small);

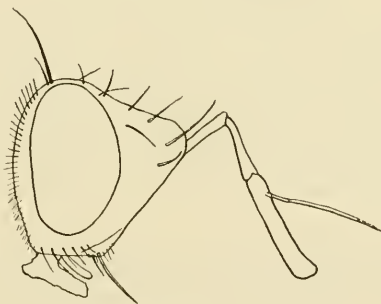


Fig. 1.

dorsocentral 3, 4 (rather small except hindmost); humeral 4; posthumeral 2; presutural 1; notopleural 2; supraalar 2; intraalar 2 (far back, rather hairlike); postalar 2; scutellum with 3 laterals and an apical depressed pair, not diverging and a small depressed discal pair; sternopleural 1, 1 or 2, 1, sometimes with several other small bristles; ptero-pleural small.

Abdomen.—Black, the sides with a more or less reddish tinge, sometimes almost wholly reddish except a median ventral stripe of black; in some angles the tergites are nearly covered with thin grey pollen, but in other lights this is mostly confined to the basal half except on the fourth segment; first segment without median marginals; second with a single pair; third with a marginal

row of eight; fourth with a row of erect small discals mixed with bristly hairs and a marginal row of 10 bristles; fifth sternite with a broad excision, the sides short, shining mesially; genital segments small, blackish, inner forceps flat, blunt, tapering, hardly separated to apex; outer forceps shining brownish-black, slender, blunt, a little longer than inner.

Legs.—Claws and pulvilli short, middle tibia with one bristle on outer front side; hind with a few irregular bristles on outer hind side.

Wings.—Of ordinary shape, decidedly brownish, the color more or less confined to wide borders of the veins, but these tend to become confluent; calypters whitish, of ordinary form.

Female.—Frons 0.37 of head width, the parafrontals shining black to a larger extent than in the male; two pairs orbital bristles which are both proclinate in two of the specimens, but in the third the upper one is unmistakably reclinate; abdomen somewhat keeled below and with numerous depressed hairs along the middle; no visible ovipositor.

Redescribed from 3 females and 2 males, reared at Santarem, Amazon, Brazil, by J. G. Myers, a parasite of *Diatraea saccharalis* Fabr.

One male and one female are returned to Imperial Institute of Entomology; one male and two females are retained in the U. S. National Museum.

PROPHRYNO Townsend.

Prophryno Townsend, Revista Mus. Paulista, vol. 15, 1926, p. 262.

Of this genus the designated genotype is *aurulans* Townsend, described on p. 353 of the same work from 7 males taken at Itaquaquecetuba, Sao Paulo, Brazil. One of the males is in the U. S. National Museum, and I add some notes on the generic characters, taken from it.

Eyes densely pilose; facial ridges with strong bristles more than halfway up; third antennal joint decidedly elongate, five or six times the second, with parallel edges; arista with short basal joints, the third joint enlarged on basal two-fifths; ocellar bristles large, proclinate; frontals extending below arista, two uppermost reclinate, of which the second is largest, the decussate frontals below this rather small and sparse on the middle of the front; cheek about one-fourth the eye height; parafacial more than half as wide as third antennal joint. Length of head at vibrissae four-fifths of that at antennae. Dorsocentral 3, 4; acrostichal 3, 3; scutellum with 3 laterals, the middle one small, and a pair of upturned decussate apicals which are less than one-half as long as the next pair of laterals, also with a depressed median pair of discals; sternopleural 2, 2 (both the lower ones small); propleura bare; prosternum with 4 or 5 small hairs on each side. Intermediate abdominal segments without discals, but the second segment has two or three pairs of erect rather bristly hairs in the discal region. Hind tibia subciliate on the outer side. Wing with first vein bare, third with two setules

at base, bend of fourth vein rounded and a little oblique, thence concave ending a little before apex and not very far from tip of third; hind cross vein joining fourth a little beyond middle between small and bend.

The new species has all of the above characters with the following differences:—cheek about one-fifth the eye height; face slightly more receding; sternopleurals 2, 1; apical scutellars depressed; no bristly hairs on the middle of the second abdominal segment; the prosternum has one or two pairs of quite strong bristles.

***Prophryno myersi*, new species.**

Male.—Parafrontals and region of ocellar triangle with golden pollen, that of the face and cheek silvery (on the former with a yellowish tinge); basal joints of antennae yellow, third joint black except extreme base, about six times the length of the second; parafacial nearly as wide as third antennal joint; palpi yellow. Thorax black in ground color, tip of scutellum yellowish; mesonotum with two pairs of black stripes bordered by cinereous pollen, the inner pair narrow and rather far apart; pleurae with dense grey pollen; pteropleural minute; calypters white, of ordinary form. Abdomen mostly black in ground color, but the sides rather broadly reddish and the fourth segment entirely red; the pollen is cinereous except on the fourth segment where it is golden; first and second segments without median marginals or the second with a very small depressed pair hardly distinguishable from hairs; third segment with marginal row of about 10, the hairs on its lower side rather dense and small over a considerable area. Venter mostly red; genitalia concealed. Fourth segment with a row of about 10 bristles a little behind the middle, only some bristly hairs at the extreme tip. Legs black, the claws and pulvilli a little elongated, brownish; middle tibia with one bristle on outer front side; hind tibia subciliate with two longer bristles; the coxae are rather strikingly red and subshining when viewed from behind. Wing subhyaline, agreeing with the genotype.

Both specimens are slightly teneral and I do not think the width of the vertex can be determined very exactly; it appears to be about .30 of the head width, but would perhaps be less in more mature specimens. Length 5.6 mm.

Described from two males, reared on Upper Ireng River, Pakeraima Mts., British Guiana, by J. G. Myers, from *Selenis suere* Cramer. The type is returned to the Imperial Institute of Entomology, while the paratype is retained in the U. S. National Museum.

Paratype.—Cat. No. 49789 U. S. N. M.
